

October 4, 2013

## **Colorado WIC open in October, November benefits on hold**

As funding is being monitored during the federal shutdown, the Colorado Women, Infants and Children (WIC) state office has asked local WIC clinics not to issue November benefits until we are sure there will be sufficient funding available.

Participants who already have November benefits are asked to hold on to their vouchers. Do not destroy or dispose of November benefits.

October benefits continue to be issued at local clinics and WIC participants with October benefits may use them. Participants also should keep their appointments at local WIC clinics. Retailers who accept WIC benefit checks have been advised to accept those issued for October.

Colorado WIC continues to carefully monitor the program's funding situation in light of the federal government shutdown and has determined that local WIC clinics may remain operational through the end of October. **Local WIC clinics should continue normal operations until further notice.**

The funds to support operation during this month come from savings from the previous fiscal year and a small amount of contingency funds provided today from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

This federal shutdown is unprecedented and there currently are many unknowns. The State office is monitoring the financial situation on a day-to-day basis to determine the best course of action. As new information is shared from the federal level, course corrections may be made.

Please continue to check this WIC Alerts page on the [www.ColoradoWIC.com](http://www.ColoradoWIC.com) website and encourage local agencies, retailers and participants to watch this site for the most current information.

Please be assured that as we learn more we will keep you informed.